

NEWS RELEASE

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Idaho's Businesses-Education Exchange Ready to Launch in South Central Idaho

With job openings in Idaho projected at more than 276,000 over the next decade, the Idaho Department of Labor's new Idaho Career Connect will provide job seekers, students and teachers information on local businesses and career opportunities while creating a database of local business volunteers who can assist with career-related educational activities.

Idaho Career Connect is a Web-based tool linking thousands of students and job seekers to business and employment information, using the Idaho Career Information System (CIS). CIS, part of the Idaho Department of Labor, reaches the state's 275,000 elementary and secondary students as well as tens of thousands of active job seekers.

"Idaho Career Connect will inform students and job seekers about available jobs, generate interest in local industries, provide links to businesses and their Web sites to help students and job seekers develop career plans that meet employer expectations," Career Information System Administrator Christie Stoll said. "It also easily links business people willing to volunteer with schools that need the help while tracking business-related, school-to-career activities in a local area."

This addition to the Idaho Career Information System is financed by the Workforce Innovation in Regional Economic Development grant, which allowed south central Idaho to develop a strategy to prepare its work force to compete in the new global economy. Idaho Career Connect will be available this summer in the region's eight counties - Blaine, Camas, Cassia, Gooding, Jerome, Lincoln, Minidoka and Twin Falls.

More information is available online at <http://idahocareerconnect.org>.

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